



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

Police Department

License Investigation Division
350 South 5th Street - Room 1A
Minneapolis MN 55415-1314

Office 612 673-3002
Fax 612 673-3399

APPENDIX A-2

March 27, 2003

TO: LICENSED BEVERAGE ALCOHOL RETAILERS

RE: RANDOM ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE RE-CHECKS

Dear Store Owner/Manager,

During the past five years, the Minneapolis Police Department License Investigation Division has been conducting random alcohol compliance checks as part of the City's initiative to reduce youth access to alcohol. In 1998, 53% of the businesses checked refused to sell to the underage shopper. In 1999, your industry's compliance rate increased to 60%. In 2000, 76% of the businesses shopped refused to sell alcohol to minors. In 2001, 82% of the businesses shopped refused to sell alcohol to minors - 6% increase over the previous year. In 2002, 83% of the businesses shopped passed these random checks. This shows an improvement every year.

Beginning April 1st 2003, the Minneapolis Police Department will randomly select businesses from among those that have failed a compliance check in the past 24 months, and again shop them with an underage minor.

These re-checks are mandated by the City Council and will be conducted in a similar manner as previous years. Upon completion of each compliance re-check, the police investigators will indicate in writing, whether the business was in compliance or in violation of Chapter 340A.503 Subd. 1 of the State of Minnesota Liquor Statutes and Rules, which relates to the sale of alcohol to persons under age twenty-one (21).

As the owner or operator of a licensed establishment, you may face criminal and civil actions if you allow the sale of alcohol to a minor. In addition, sanctions may also include the suspension and/or revocation of your current liquor license. If a minor is served, the seller will be provided a copy of the Seller's Information and Identification Sheet that states the case will be forwarded to the City Attorney for charging as a gross misdemeanor. Likewise, if the minor is served, an administrative fine will be imposed on the licensee based on the following matrix:

First Violation	\$500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars)
Second Violation (within 24 months)	\$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars)
Third Violation (within 24 months)	\$2,000.00 (Two Thousand Dollars)
Fourth Violation (within 24 months)	Refer to City Council for action

Since re-checks are conducted on all businesses that have failed at least one compliance check in the past 24 months, the minimum administrative fine for any that fail their re-check is \$1,000.00 (one-thousand dollars).

The City of Minneapolis encourages your continued cooperation in preventing access to alcohol by minors. You can help insure your establishment is in compliance by providing thorough and on-going server training, and implementing a mandatory proof of age policy for all alcoholic beverage sales. Your support to this program is invaluable.

If you have further questions, please contact this office at 673-3803.

Sincerely,

Sgt. Kent B. Warnberg
License Investigation Division